

POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB - NEWSLETTER - JUNE/JULY 2000

Please support our sponsors:

Ham Radio Outlet

The RF Connection

Force 12 antennas (see discount offer at the
end of this issue)

PVRC CALENDAR

Weekly Wed

BWI Regional weekly breakfast. Wednesdays 7:30 am,
Basil's Deli, Elkridge Landing Rd near BWI.

Monthly

Over-the-Hill Luncheon. Date to be announced.

Jun 17 Sat

W3LPL open house, 3055 Hobbs Rd, Glenwood.

Jul 8-9

WRTC2000 part of IARU contest. See details in this
issue.

Jul 22 Sat

W4MYA open house. 12N-5pm, 5303 St Pauls Church Rd,
Goochland, VA. See below

? Sat

Joint PVRC/FRC meeting in the FRC area. TBA

Aug 12 Sat

Fowlfest at W3Y0Z park.

Aug 19 Sat

NC picnic: 3pm at K2AV QTH, 2628 US Hwy 64 W, Apex, NC

Sep 7 Thu

PVRC/NC meeting at Ryans.

First meeting after summer recess

Sep 11 Mon

Central meeting. First meeting after summer recess

NEWSLETTER HELP NEEDED!

by Dick Wilder, K3DI 410-757-6706

I could use some help with the Newsletter! A

significant help would be an on-call Windows 95 and Word 97 consultant to help me with such as mail merge used to produce the bar codes. We can use some technical and contest related articles. Is there somebody who would feed me a monthly article about score reporting deadlines, report formats, and email or postal mail addresses? (If all SS logs were submitted PVRC would be #1.)

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY 2000
by Jack Hammett, K4VV

Guest Speakers have created some excitement for us as Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Tom Schiller, N6BT, and John Devoldere, ON4UN came to speak at recent PVRC events. Thanks to all of you who worked to make these sessions possible. We want the tapes of these events to add value for the membership and Regions of PVRC.

Our next visiting speaker will be Jay Terleski, WX0B, the leader of Array Solutions. Brian and I collaborated to invite Jay, who has accepted for the trip to speak in July or August. Planning is underway.

There is news on the Force 12 discount program for PVRC in this newsletter. Thanks to Jim Horton, N3KTV for volunteering to coordinate and consolidate the PVRC order. We may need to be reminded that this discount program relates to commercial business, and some aspects are not suitable for discussion on the air (packet, voice, etc.). I made a blunder myself on this issue.

With the recent news of our near miss on Sweepstakes, we may ask ourselves what each of us may do to improve our competitiveness.

WORLD RADIO TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (WRTC20000)
DURING THE IARU CONTEST.

The WRTC2000 will be run (8am 7/8 to 8am 7/9 ET) within IARU HF CHAMPIONSHIP, with 53 stations competing during the July 8/9 weekend. Each team will use special call with unique prefix from S500A-S599Z block, thus making them rather interesting for prefix hunters. PVRC'er K3NA will be on one team.

Each valid contact (duplicate contacts do not count) with WRTC stations (S500A-S599Z) brings one (1) point, regardless of mode and band. Multi and single operator stations compete in the same ranking. IARU HQ stations will be ranked separately.

Special WRTC T-shirts will be awarded to all stations achieving more than: 80 points (DX) and 160 points (EU). Plus there are various plaques and certificates to be awarded.

Excerpts from logs must be submitted (only e-mail or floppy disc) to WRTC2000 Organizing Committee, no later than 15th August 2000. Their e-mail address is: [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

The announced referees to check the scores are K1ZZ (Chief Referee), JE1CKA, K4VX, N6AA, S50R, S53R, and UA2FZ.

The announced referees assigned to particular locations are: 9A2AA, DJ6QT, DL1VJ, EA1AK, I4UFH, IV3TAN, JE1JKL, K1KI, K1VR, K5RC, K6NA, K7SS, K9JF, KT3Y, LU6ETB, N2AA, N2GA, N3RD, N5KO, N6KT, N6TJ, N7BG, OH0XX, OH1RY, OH2KI, OK2FD, ON4UN, PY5EG, RU1AA, S50K, S51F, S53EO, S53Z, S5500, S57AD, S57AL, S57AW, S57U, S59L, SM3DMP, T97M, UA2FZ, UX1UA, VA7CW, VK2AYD, W0UN, W1FJ, W6OAT, W6UM, YL2KL, YU1AO, YT6A, and YT6T. More info can be found at <http://wrtc2000.bit.si/> or mirror site <http://jzap.com/jelcka/wrtc2000/>

JOINT PVRC/CVCC OPEN HOUSE AT BOB MORRIS, W4MYA

Come inspect the new shack. I'm located just West of the center of PVRC! Saturday, July 22 from 12N to 5pm with food served at 1pm. Would like to get an approx head count.. Please RVE-mail to [\[email protected\]](mailto:).

FROM THE NORTH: I-95 South towards Richmond I-295 towards I-64 West toward Charlottesville. I-295 will then dead-end into I-64 West. Get off at the Oilville exit, the first after the rest area. Turn Left onto Rt 617; Rt 617 "T"'s into Rt 250. Right on Rt 250. The next hard surface road on the left, Rt 632. Signs saying Goochland Courthouse and J Sargent Reynolds Comm College will be just before the road. Take the Left. Rt 632 "T"'s into Rt 522. Turn Left onto Rt 522. Rt 522 "T"'s into Rt 6 at the traffic light. Turn Right onto Rt 6. Ten miles brings you to Georges Tavern Market which is also a Mobil gas station. The next road is Rt 45; take a Left on Rt 45. Go 2 Miles and you will see Rt 625 to the Left. Take a Left on Rt 625. Go 0.2 of a mile on the right is the mailbox for 5303. You have arrived. Number here is 804-457-9011

FROM THE SOUTH: If you are closer to I-85/95, run it

North. Take I-295 North around Richmond. I-295 will terminate at I-64 West. Follow the directions above from there.

If you are closer to RT 29, Run Rt 29 until Keysville. Rt 15 North to Farmville, Rt 45 north out of Farmville. Rt 45/60 East thru Cumberland. Take a left (North) on Rt 45 east of Cumberland. After you cross the James River go 4 miles. Take Rt 625 on the Right. Go 0.2 miles to mailbox 5303.

PVRC/NC MEETING MINUTES 4/9/00 by Pete Soper, KS4XG

The meeting was held at the Jim Graham building at the Wake county fairgrounds.

Attendee Members: Jeff AC4ZO, Guy K2AV, Brian K3KO, Bob K4HA, Jim K4QPL, Henry K4TMC, Rick K7GM, Mark KI7WX, Pete KS4XG, Jim N3QYE, Dan N3ND, Jeff N3NPQ, Howie N4AF, Bert N4CW, Tom N4TL, Jay NT4D, and Gary W2CS

Attendee Guests: James KF4EZZ, Don W4ZYT, Don N4UB, Chuck N8CH, Bob N3LDI, Robert N4ZAK, George N3GJ, John W4AWM, Fred W4DF, Dan N1ND, Bob N2NFG, Terry K4TBN, Joel W3RFC, Roger KD4MYE, and Linda N2YL.

Membership: This was the first meeting of Bob Turner N2NFG of Warrenton. Bob is an active CW and RTTY contest, scoring just under a million points in the most recent BARTG RTTY contest. Bob has over 300 countries confirmed and enjoys PKS31 and satellite contacts in addition to contesting and Dxing. (Bob submitted a formal application to PVRC after this meeting)

This was also the first meeting of Robert Little N4ZAK of Chapel Hill. Robert is interested in contesting and we look forward to seeing him in future meetings.

Business: K2AV called for a formal meeting at 11am but there was no business to discuss or report except to assert that this will be the regular April chapter meeting site in the future.

Program: A RUFZ CW callsign exerciser was set up as well as a short video of SSB Sprint action by KI7WX. A map showing the club circle was on display along with a large "Radiosport" banner and information sheets for guests to our booth to take home. A writeup of the day's events is here:

<http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc/Rfest2000.html>

PVRC/NC MEETING MINUTES 5/4/00 by Pete Soper, KS4XG

The meeting was held at Jaspers Restaurant in Cary from 7-10:30pm

Attendee Members and applicants: Will AA4NC, Guy K2AV, Brian K3KO, Jim K4QPL, Mark KI7WX, Pete KS4XG, Dan N3ND, Jim N3QYE, Howie N4AF, Bert N4CW, Joe NA3T, Gary W2CS, and Bob N2NFG.

Attendee Guests: W2CS introduced his wife Linda N2YL, former Hudson division Director and his son Brian N2EKS who is visiting from upstate NY. KS4XG introduced his wife Jenny.

Membership: This was the second meeting of Bob N2NFG, nominated for membership by K2AV. The vote was unanimous. Welcome to PVRC, Bob! Chapter membership is now 37.

Business: There was no formal business.

Announcements: N3QYE has taken over the chapter web site and requested folks send pictures and/or URLs for linking to their call on the main page. Jim's email is [\[email protected\]](mailto:). Check out the web site at <http://www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc>

AA4NC observed that he was the only North Carolina native present! KI7WX announced that Bencher was forced to pull their tribander from the market as they have not licensed use of a patent held by Force12.

Member News: N2NFG has moved to a new home and will be planting a tower as soon as his lot starts growing more grass than rocks.

N3QYE did some study of the chapter's Sweepstakes effort in 1999 and pointed out a 27% increase in CW points production over 1998. Jim is preparing with K4QPL and K04PY to do a battery powered QRP sweepstakes effort at a high point in Raleigh. Jim hopes they'll be able to construct some wire yagi antennas for the effort.

N4AF had a lightning strike at his place and it took out a lot of equipment. Howie has made repairs and is preparing to host a serious effort for WPX/CW with K2AV and N4CW. K2AV said he'd been working and busy with other things with no time left.

K3KO has used up a third quarter mile reel of wire and

has beverages for seven directions now. Brian also recently got a Titan 425 amp.

KI7WX bought three Bencher Skyhawks and has lined up some Rohn 55G. N3ND and N4CW are having fun with PSK31.

NA3T Has created a new version of his mapping software that allows inclusion of towns down to population 1000 Joe's map site is here:

<http://www.wm7d.net/azproj.shtml>

Program: There was a surprise visit by Slarnac, Carnac's ham radio cousin. Slarnac divined the identity of some PVRC/NC chapter members, holding sealed envelopes containing their callsigns to his forehead and discerning who they were by the vibrations emitted:

Who will inspire and assist programming in a collection of new ham radio programs after the fashion of RUFZ, including one called SCRAMBLE UBN, which takes a legal contest log and inserts modified calls and exchanges so that points less penalties equals exactly zero, designed to see if the contest committee is paying any attention. (K3KO)

Who will be operating the CQWWCW in the middle of Hurricane Schlamiel, loosing power when the hurricane blows in a moonshine still from an adjacent county, impaling it on the power pole out front. This undefeatable individual takes a simple room fan, nails it to the roof with some diodes, and runs the rest of the contest on wind power qrp. Unfortunately all beams are left pointing 210 degrees forcing him to work the rest of the contest Long Path to everywhere except Bora Bora. His high score in spite of these incredible handicaps inspires the contest committee to create a new class: QRP Long Path Only. He later takes the Moonshine Still and converts it into a cooling tower for his new system of water-cooled baluns. (N4AF)

Who, after having to move for the third time in eight months, gives up on having a shack or putting down a tower with a base, and mounts a crankup tower on the back of a flatbed truck and an FT100 in the glovebox. This works fine until the second night of the ARRL DX SSB when his dry throat inspires him to drive the flatbed 5 miles to the local 7-11 for a Slurpee. It is only when he sees the 7-11 go dark as he pulls in the parking lot, he remembers he forgot to lower the tower. He gets off the hook for a million bux damage to phone and power lines when the residents in the area blame it

on a low-flying inverted UFO giving off sounds like "honkey honkey wngle Bltz ruddle ruddle oink". (KI7WX)

Who will manage to get \$100,000 of radio gear through Aruba customs both ways without a hitch, only to get nailed for failing to declare his Lauren Bacall designer socks bought from a street vendor operating two feet outside the duty free zone. (AA4NC)

Who, after having lightning strike his keyer in the middle of the SS CW, out of loyalty for PVRC and the club score, operates the rest of the contest by whistling into the microphone. He narrowly escapes electrocution when the puddle of drool accumulating under the microphone seeps into the rig coming in contact with the 110, suffering second degree burns to the lower lip and tip of his tongue. For the rest of the contest he receives numerous reports about the chirp on his signal. (KS4XG)

Who, after finally getting up towers and beams, 45 minutes before the contest suffers an anxiety attack on account of dipole withdrawal symptoms. He later works 98 countries on 40 meters single band using an inverted vee, hurridly strung from the director to boom mounting flange of his Force 12 Magnum 340N. (K2AV)

Following Slarnac we viewed about two hours of the Force12 video presentation.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be 3pm Saturday, August 19th at K2AV's home. Bring folding chairs, significant others (kids too!). Guy says he might have some tower work lined up and may send a request for help earlier that day before the meeting. Directions: From highway 55 take US 64 west 1 1/4 miles. Turn right into service road (across road from Abingdon Subdivision entrance). Turn left on service road. Turn right on paved driveway that has mailbox with 2628. House not visible from the road. Take drive way to end with loop right in front of house. Park in loop. Or park as directed if someone is directing.

If coming from anywhere significantly west of NC 55, any way that drops down or goes up to US 64 will be better. At US 64 go east. East of Pittsboro, east of Jordan Lake, east of stoplight at NC 751. 0.9 mi east of gas station, Turn LEFT into service road across from the Large Green Sign that says NC 55 1 1/4 miles. As above. US 64 is four lanes all the way from Siler City to Raleigh, except for Pittsboro.

SWVA CHAPTER MINUTES, 4/20/00 by John Mitchell, K4IQ

PVRC SWVA held a chapter meeting on April 28th at the Sunnybrook Inn in Roanoke, VA. Present were WA4BKW, Bill; W0MAN, Susanne, W4JAM, John; KU4RG, Anthony; KF4OKG, Shilynn; W4YE, Buddy; N4EL, Nat and his XYL Emily K4BSA; N4GU, Mike; K1GG, Gordon; and K4IQ, John.

After a nice meal, we adjourned to our meeting room upstairs where we covered recent operating events. KU4RG and KF4OKG operated together for the WPX phone and turned in just under a million points. N4GU had a mini-multi operation and had a lot of fun with five operators and just over a million points. This operation also uncovered a possible club addition, a freshman at Va Tech who showed both interest and promise in the operating position. W4YE operated a 10 meter solo effort, experimenting with NA. He said it was "good practice" and we're all really happy to see Buddy finally losing the mechanical dupe sheets! Although, he usually beats our automated efforts with them, we know he'll be posting even bigger scores soon. W0MAN and W4JAM have selected a home site in Bedford County, near Forest, and beta testing at the new site showed some promising reception results. Nat and Emily N4EL and K4BSA are going to be staffing the National Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill next year, and are very excited about the opportunity. N4GU operated the VA QSO party and did quite well, possibly having this years winning score! Congratulation Mike on a super effort!

We then viewed the interesting video by N3RR on station automation, and adjourned the meeting after setting our next meeting for June 16th at the Western Sizzlin' Restaurant in Christiansburg. We will meet at 6PM for dinner then at 7:15 re-convene at the parking lot behind Whittemore Hall at Va Tech, where N4GU will take us on a tour of the Antenna Lab there. Look forward to seeing everyone at that meeting, which will be an interesting one, to be sure.

OTH MEETING 5/31/00 by Ben Shaver, AA4XU

The Over-The-Hill Division of the PVRC met on May 31st for lunch and discussion at Main Street USA in Annandale, VA. The following attended: K6ETM George Sinclair, W3XE Andy Andersen, K3WX Tony Faiola, W3GN Lawrence Fadner, W3UJ Henry Herman, K3ZO Fred Laun, W3AZ Bill Leavitt, W4DM Dale Harris, and AA4XU Ben

Shaver. The next Lunch meeting will be held in Oxon Hill, MD, Bill Leavitt, Host. All PVRC members and their guests are welcome.

SHORT NOTES FROM THE EDITOR, K3DI

The email addresses were accidentally omitted from the membership roster distributed with the May issue. In this Jun/Jul issue you will find those a single sheet containing email address that may be remove and attached to you copy of the roster. (The email list is omitted from the electronic edition at www.pvrc.org.)

Barry WR3Z operating at WR3L had an unusual contact in the WPX. He was called by Tom Warren DL/K3TW/BM. Tom subsequently explained that BM was for "Bike Mobile."

The Roanoke Valley Hamfest and Computer Show sponsored by the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club will be held August 5th from 9 am to 3 pm at the William Byrd HS, Washington Ave (route 24), Vinton, VA. Talk-in on 146.985 (-600). Admission \$6 at the door. Information: email Dave Miller at [\[email protected\]](mailto:) or <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homespages/fcupp/rvarc..htm>

K3ZO won the KCDXC annual pileup competition at Dayton.

Operating as MBOA in the reunion. Two days before departing for England, I received word from G3HJF that he had closed his B&B from which I was to operate. With help from G3ZEM and G3VMW, I was invited to operate from the station of John Dunnington, G3LZQ, near York. He has FT-1000MP, an amplifier, a C-3 at 70 feet, plus separate computers for CT and packet. During the first 2 hours on Saturday morning I had 31 QSOs but then the path crashed. I only worked only K3CKT during following two hours. During the poor conditions, I amused myself by answering calls from stations participating in the European Field Day.

The reference page was unchanged so was not included this month.

S C O R E S

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* Changes/additions/deletions *
* to W2GG via packet or *
* [\[email protected\]](mailto:) *
* ### = missing information *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CQ WPX CW (#3 - 06/02/2000)

CALL PWR BAND QSO MULTS SCORE

* SINGLE OP - UNASSISTED

K3ZO	C	1775	653	3,505,957	
KT3Y	C	20	1619	683	2,839,000
K8OQL	C/TS	1238	572	1,795,508	
N1WR	B	1049	491	1,498,041	
K4VV	C	685	415	764,845	
W3DAD	B	368	244	264,252	
KS4XG	B	399	238	259,182	
W3PP	A	15	280	247	180,063
W3CP	B	40	219	179	150,002
AA4KD	B	254	###	119,997	
K3DSP	B/R	275	188	115,432	
N4MM	B/TS	152	134	55,878	
WD3P	A	160	###	53,467	
W3UL	C	150	123	52,275	

* SINGLE OP - ASSISTED

W2GG	B	630	371	630,329
W3HVQ	C	578	387	611,460
K3SA	C	553	341	507,408

* MULTI-SINGLE

N6TV	C	###	###	256,100
------	---	-----	-----	---------

* MULTI-MULTI

NR4M	C	4391	1021	12,149,900
NY4A	C	4576	974	11,769,816
W4MYA	C	3987	974	10,523,096
WR3L	C	2423	798	5,053,734

* DXPEDITIONS

V25A	C	4478	891	12,213,828
------	---	------	-----	------------

A = QRP

B = LOW POWER

C = HIGH POWER

TS = TRIBANDER + SINGLE ELEM 160-40

BR = BAND RESTRICTED

R = ROOKIE

23 LOGS CW TOTAL 65,369,570

39 LOGS SSB TOTAL 100,029,406

62 GRAND TOTAL 165,398,976

LAST YEAR'S RESULTS (SSB & CW)

(Not available)

OPERATORS:

K8OQL from K2UOP QTH
N6TV K3NA plus 2 non-PVRC
NR4M K4EC K4GMH K4ZW K1SE K4EU WA4JUK
NR4M RA3AUU K7SV
NY4A N4AF W2CS N4CW K2AV
V25A N3OC plus 1 non-PVRC
W4MYA W4DR W4HJ WA4QDM WK4Y WU4G W4MYA
WR3L WR3L WR3Z K3FT AA3SC N3NT KA3TUL

PVRC REUNION SCORES (#1, 6/12/00)
Please report scores for the reunion only to
[\[email protected\]](mailto:) or via packet.

Call	QSO	Mul	Score
W3TMZ	157	19	5966
W4YE	116	19	4408
K3CKT	85	18	3060
WR3Z	84	18	3024
W3GRF	88	12	2816
Op: W3MC			
K4VV	70	17	2380
K5RT	84	14	2352
W0SS	61	16	1952
K3ZO	54	17	1836
W3CP	46	14	1288
W5KL	53	12	1272
W2RS	48	13	1248
N8II	41	13	1066
N3II	42	12	1008
N6BM	42	11	924
K2BA	45	10	900
N3AM	39	9	702
KT5X	33	10	660
W6MVW	26	12	624
W4DM	28	11	616
W3PP	33	9	594
W3GN	28	10	560
M0BOA	32	8	512
Op: K3DI			
W3FZV	24	10	480
W7YS	25	9	450
K3SA	23	9	414
W4ZYT	30	6	360
W3AZD	16	9	288
K4TBN	16	6	192
W4AGI	14	6	168
K4EU	11	6	132
W4PHL	15	4	120
N4AF	9	5	90
W2GG	7	6	84
W3LPL	9	4	72
KD6TB	5	3	30

THE R.F. CONNECTION

"Specialist in RF Connection and Coax"
213 North Frederick Ave, Suite 11
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Tech Support: 301-840-5477
24-hour FAX: 301-869-3680
Order line: 800-783-2666
email: [\[email protected\]](mailto:)

Please visit us on the web:
<http://www.therfc.com>

Our catalog includes UHF Series, N Series, BNC Series, Adapters, F Series, DIN Plugs, Portable Radio Power DIN Plugs, Hardline Connectors, Microphone Connectors, FME, Reverse Polarity (TNC, N, & SMA), and two dozen coax types.

PVRC Discount Purchase from FORCE 12.

In followup to our hosting the talks by Tom Schiller (N6BT) of FORCE 12, Tom has offered PVRC the opportunity for a discount on a consolidated order. The deal is:

- PVRC will collect the members' orders for FORCE 12 products at a flat 15% discount off the catalog price. All of the discount is to the members.
- The discount cannot be used in conjunction with any other FORCE 12 promotion or sale (including Dayton specials).
- We consolidate the order and receive a consolidated shipment.
- We pay for shipping*. Shipping is to one location**.
- FORCE 12 will take payment by credit cards for your portion of the order.
- PVRC coordinates and consolidates the order. (That's my job.)

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, you can get in touch with Jim Horton (N3KTV) at the following addresses.

[\[email protected\]](mailto:)

Home number: 301-258-9731
Fax Number: 301-977-7962

Send me your NAME, CALL SIGN, EMAIL ADDRESS, POSTAL ADDRESS and a PHONE NUMBER along with the FORCE 12 PRODUCT(s) you are interested in purchasing. Sending me a note now does not obligate you to order. It gives me an idea of who is interested, how many antennas and what other products we are looking at. We are looking to finalize the order at by the end of June.

You can checkout all the Force 12 Antenna selection at their home pages

<http://www.qth.com/force12/> and
<http://www.force12inc.com/>.

Note that the briefing on "Debugging an Antenna System" that Tom presented is now available on the latter website.

* To reduce the shipping cost, shipping will go to a commercial address (my office located in Maryland.) From there, we can distribute the antennas through the PVRC sneaker net or make arrangement for you to pick up your order.

** If there is a sufficiently large portion of the order that can go to one location in another state or distant Region, they will ship that portion of the order separately. For instance, if there is a large enough portion of the order to West Virginia and everyone there agrees to get their order from one location in West Virginia, FORCE 12 will work with us to separate the shipment.

Please send amateur radio mail for Dick via [\[email protected\]](mailto:).